

Teachers

A broad variety of opportunities, above average pay, and the chance to make a difference



Are you creative? Do you enjoy helping and motivating others? If so, a career as a teacher might be the right fit for you. This occupation offers a broad variety of opportunities, above average pay, and the chance to make a difference in the lives of students. Teachers use their communication, research and organizational skills to present diverse subjects, and are increasingly called upon to participate in administrative functions such as budgeting and policy development. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job outlook for teachers is expected to be excellent during the next ten years, and depends greatly on the subject taught and geographical area.

Teachers work with students both as a group and individually, and facilitate learning through discussions, hands-on activities, group projects, and presentations. They plan lessons, administer tests, and continually assess students' abilities. From introducing basic concepts to preschoolers to teaching complex mathematics to high school students, teachers help students develop the critical thinking and problem solving skills they need to succeed. Secondary school teachers are expected to have a lot of job openings. These teachers prepare students for college level courses or the workplace, and specialize in a particular subject such as English, mathematics, biology, history or a foreign language. Secondary vocational education teachers train students to work in a variety of fields such as healthcare, auto repair, and technology. To meet employers' changing needs, they develop partnerships with businesses to design curriculum and provide internships.

As technology and demographics change, teachers must continually update their skills. Computers now play a significant role in instruction, and teachers must understand how to use the Internet and computer software to promote interactive learning. Teachers also use computers to record grades and perform other administrative functions. With growing minority populations, teachers must work with students from diverse social, ethnic and religious backgrounds. Discipline problems and students for whom English is a second language make teaching challenging, while seeing students develop new skills and understand a subject can be very rewarding.

In all 50 states, teachers must have a bachelor's degree, complete an approved teacher-training program, and be licensed. To ease a teaching shortage, many states are now allowing those without a degree in teaching to instruct in the subject they have degree in, provided they complete a short training program. Job prospects are expected to be best for bilingual teachers and in rural areas, inner cities, and in high-demand

subjects such as chemistry and physics. Many job openings will result from teachers retiring and population growth in some areas of the country. Check out the graph to see wage rates for a variety of teaching occupations in Utah. ⓘ

For more information:

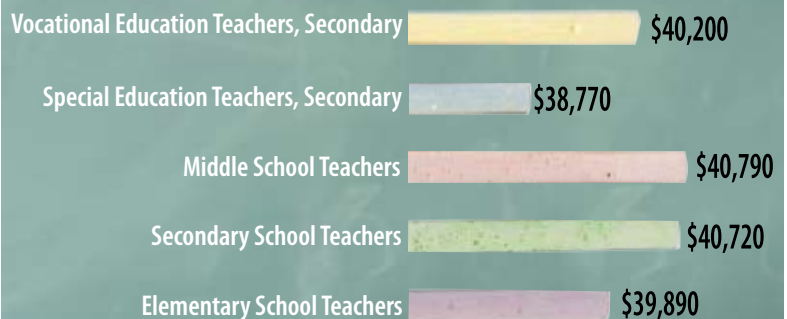
<http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoOccinfo.do> Career Spotlight



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Selected Teaching Occupations and Wages

Average Utah Annual Wage



Utah Department of Workforce Services. Published May 2006 (May 2005 data).